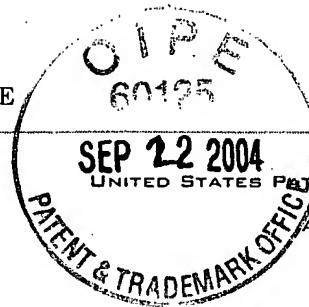




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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of  
Takeru Watanabe  
Application No. 10/671,191  
Filed: September 29, 2003  
Attorney Docket Number:  
0171-1021P

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the Petition in Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers, filed July 12, 2004, requesting the above-identified application be accorded a filing date of September 29, 2003, including pages 45 - 47 of the specification.

The petition is granted.

The application was filed on September 29, 2003. However, on June 7, 2004, the Office of Initial Patent Examination mailed a Notice to File Corrected Application Papers ("Notice"), informing Applicant that the application had been accorded a filing date; however, pages 45 - 47 of the specification and an abstract appeared to have been omitted from the application.

In response, Petitioner files the instant petition wherein Petitioner avers that pages 45 - 47 of the specification were included among 47 pages of Specification filed initially, on September 29, 2003, and were received by this Office as evidenced by the return-receipt postcard. In support, Petitioner provides a copy of a return receipt postcard acknowledging receipt of, *inter alia*, 47 pages of Specification filed on September 29, 2003.

A review of the return receipt postcard reveals that Petitioner is correct. The postcard acknowledges receipt of 47 pages of Specification by this Office on September 29, 2003. Petitioner has also re-submitted pages 45 - 47 of the specification, including an abstract, with the instant petition.


Evidence of receipt of any correspondence filed in the Patent and Trademark Office can be obtained by submitting a self-addressed postcard properly itemizing and identifying the paper or papers being filed. Upon receipt of the correspondence, the Patent and Trademark Office will check the listing on the postcard against the papers submitted, making sure that all items listed are present and will then stamp the postcard with an Official date stamp and place the postcard in the outgoing mail. "A postcard receipt which itemizes and properly identifies the papers which are being filed serves as *prima facie* evidence of receipt in the PTO of all items listed thereon by the PTO." MPEP § 503.

Accordingly, the petition is granted. The copy of pages 45 - 47 of the specification, supplied with the instant petition on July 12, 2004, will be used for examination purposes.

A refund of the petition fee has been credited to deposit account 02-2448 as authorized in the instant petition.

The application will be returned to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for further processing as a nonprovisional application with a filing date of September 29, 2003, and an indication that pages 45 - 47 of the Specification, including an abstract, were included among 47 pages of Specification that were present on filing on September 29, 2003.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to Petitions Attorney Derek L. Woods at (703) 305-0014.

  
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